

**The Sacred Heart & Our Lady**  
**Main Street, Aston-le-Walls, NN11 6UF**  
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**Website: [www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk](http://www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk)**  
**28th June 2020**  
**SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL**

**Welcome to our Parish Newsletter**

**Hello everyone!** *Last Monday I drove down the M40 to visit members of my immediate family – for the first time since before lockdown! Notwithstanding any social distancing, it was a wonderful chance for us all to see each other, face to face. We all felt a family again! In recent months, we had to settle for a family gathering using social media on a Sunday at midday, which is a great tool, but not quite the same. I returned home later that day, buoyed up with the joy of this experience! Humans are, by their nature usually social beings, and so this encounter was important for us all. It helps make us who we are, and by the sounds of things, several you will have had similar experiences recently I have no doubt. Today we celebrate the meeting once again of two other people whom we should call friends, and indeed, family – St Peter and St Paul. Although quite different people with different temperaments, they have become linked as key pillars of the Church; two of our greatest saints some might say. People we consider truly as “friends of God”. Yet they are people as human with their own set of strengths and weaknesses, who experienced both great triumphs and challenges in their lives as you and I. Companions of our pilgrimage of faith today.*

*In celebrating this great Feast, we can be reminded that we are also called, invited, and graced to be “the friends of God”. This is what discipleship is about and is something we do together. Discipleship is something we do together: with our family, with our friends, with our neighbours and yes, even with the stranger in our midst. As we continue our emergence from the darkness and at times isolation of these past few months, we will get to meet one another again, be it in a church or supermarket, or school, or neighbourhood. Whoever we find ourselves meeting, let us continue that delight in meeting them, even if we cannot yet give them a hug, or a peck on the cheek, or a simple handshake, as might be the norm. Let us recall that not one of us has everything it means to be a follower of Jesus – let us be open to the understanding that if Peter and Paul complemented one another, our own ministry and identity will be complemented by others as well.*

*With every blessing for this coming week!*

*Fr James*

**This Sunday**, let us pray for all for whom the Parish Church in King’s Sutton, St Peter and St Paul, is a “spiritual home”. As a Catholic community, we are blessed to be able to walk alongside our Anglican sisters and brothers; and share the Church building and other facilities available. May our friendship in Christ and with one another deepen and blossom in abundance!

**For the younger members** The Parish website has “child-friendly” bulletins and worksheets for you to either download (visit <https://sacredheart.btck.co.uk/> and scroll down “Main News Page”), or contact Fr James for an electronic copy to be sent to you, by email.

**Onwards and Upwards!** You will probably have heard that permission has been given for churches to re-open for public worship **from 4<sup>th</sup> July** onwards, which is fantastic news! **Thanks be to God!** However, we will not be “back to normal” overnight. There will be conditions; ‘social distancing’, limited numbers, times of Mass and how to distribute holy Communion, etc., and until we know what those conditions will be, it is not yet possible to make firm plans. We will keep you informed as to developments. In the meantime, attached to this newsletter is a Message from the Metropolitan Archbishops of England to us all regarding the resumption of collective worship in England. **Private Prayer arrangements** remain in place as current: Saturday 10.30am-12 noon and Sunday 2.30pm-4.30pm. Please be aware that the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation remains in force, and those who are shielding or vulnerable should not come to the church at present, and neither should any who feel unwell, particularly suffering from Covid-like symptoms. ***If you are not able to come to Church*** at this time because of your need to continue to shield yourself on medical or other official advice, please do not feel excluded! If you would like to offer up a prayer in Church, let me know and I will ask one of the stewards to light a candle on your behalf and your prayer request(s) will be placed upon the altar by Fr James.

**St Mary’s RC Primary School: [www.stmarysrc-astonlewalls.co.uk](http://www.stmarysrc-astonlewalls.co.uk)                      Tel: 01295 660258**

**Parish Safeguarding Rep: Sally Doran 07866 701666**

NORTHAMPTON ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESAN TRUST-REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 234091

**Food for Thought** In today's gospel, Jesus asks the quintessential question of discipleship: "But you, who do you say I am?" How might you answer this question in your own words of faith?

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** If you wish to celebrate this Sacrament, then please contact Fr James direct, who can arrange a date and time.

**Mass Intentions** Just to remind you that Fr James is celebrating a (private) Mass every day. If you would like a Mass to be said for any intention, please continue to do so. Please either telephone or email Fr James with your request or put an envelope with the request and any Mass offering in the post or through the Presbytery door. The contact details are at the top of this newsletter.

**Parish Finances** It is inevitable that our income has taken "a hit" during these weeks and months of lockdown. Thank you to those who donated to parish finances this past week either when coming for private prayer, or generally through the presbytery letterbox: £107 was received. We continue to be grateful for the financial support received by bank transfer, standing order or other online facilities. If you wish to send a cheque donation, please make the cheque payable to the Parish, not Fr James. The Diocese has introduced another way of making donations to the parish – called 'Giving Tuesday'. All you need to do is phone 01604 712065 and donate to our Parish. You will need a credit or debit card to hand and you will be able to make a one-off donation to cover missed Sunday offerings or simply call each week to make an offering. Patience may be needed, as only one person will be taking these calls, but if you leave details on the answer machine someone will get back to you!

**Please pray for:** Jeffrey & Terence H, Rev Stevie C, Fr Euan OP, Tess K, Tony B, Carmel R, Sarel S, Averil M, Bernard B, Paul C, Herman L, Colm E, Joy B, Catherine R, Joan T, Alan and Jean R, Josie M, Eileen E-L, Michael B. We enfold in prayer all those suffering with COVID-19 and all working within the NHS, Care Homes, hospices, our schools and all key workers.

**MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY  
SAFE AND WELL THIS COMING WEEK!**

### **This Sunday's Feast**



(Sts Peter and Paul, pray for us)

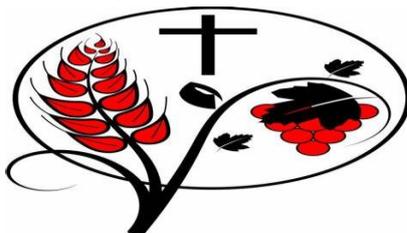
### **Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(Prayer of St Alphonsus)



### **Prayer to the Saints**

*Oh, Lord our God,  
Saints Peter and  
Paul steered the  
early Church by Your  
Power and were  
leaders who modelled  
and strengthened the  
faith of the Church.*

*Therefore, I ask  
Saints Peter and  
Paul to pray for my  
faith to grow  
stronger and  
stronger every day.  
AMEN.*